PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

09-10

ANNUAL REPORT

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

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This annual report is also available in electronic format from the ministry's website at **www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca.**

Letters of Transmittal

July 2010

His Honour
The Honourable Dr. Gordon L. Barnhart
Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Saskatchewan

May it please Your Honour:

The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to delivering and building on its promises to Saskatchewan people. One of those promises is a commitment to increased transparency and accountability.

The 2009-10 Annual Report demonstrates progress towards the commitments that relate to this Ministry as of March 31, 2010.

The initiatives pursued in 2009-10, and the results achieved, are communicated to the legislature and to the Saskatchewan people through this report. The results achieved within our Government's last fiscal year provide a foundation for establishing priorities and influencing future government activities. Therefore, the annual reports are not only an important accountability document, but they can help to inform future planning and resource allocation in the upcoming years.

As Minister of Agriculture, it is my pleasure to submit the annual report for the 12 months ending March 31, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Bjornerud

Bob Bjornerud
Minister of Agriculture

Letters of Transmittal

June 2010

The Honourable Bob Bjornerud
Minister of Agriculture

Sir:

I wish to present to you the annual report of Saskatchewan Agriculture for the 12 months ending March 31, 2010.

The Ministry's annual report was prepared under my direction in accordance with the Government's Accountability Framework and its system of planning, measuring and reporting. I am ultimately responsible for the financial administration and management control of the Ministry. All key actions, and associated economic or fiscal implications contained in this report are, to the best of my knowledge, accurate and reliable.

Respectfully submitted,

Alanna Koch
Deputy Minister of Agriculture

Introduction

This annual report presents the Ministry's activities and results for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2010. It reports on public commitments made, and other key accomplishments of the Ministry.

With the release of the Ministry Plan for 2009-10, results are provided on the publicly-committed strategies, actions and performance measures identified in the plan. This report also demonstrates progress made on Government commitments as stated in the *Government Direction for 2009-10*, the Minister's Mandate letter, throne speeches and other commitments.

The 2009-10 Annual Report also sets the stage for future planning and budget process by providing an opportunity to assess the accomplishments and results, and identifying how to build on past successes for the benefit of Saskatchewan people. This reporting of actual year-end results, both financial and performance, increases the Ministry's accountability to the public.

The Ministry has included performance measures in this annual report. Those measures included in the 2009-10 Plan will be reported here.

The Minister's Mandate was released on November 21, 2007. It can be found at: www.gov.sk.ca/cabinet/bjornerud.

The 2009 Speech from the Throne was delivered on October 21, 2009, and can be found at: www.gov.sk.ca/executive-council/throne-speech.

The government-wide Budget Summary 2010-2011: Balanced, Forward-Looking, and Responsible is available at: www.finance.gov.sk.ca/budget2010-11.

The Ministry Plan for 2009-2010 may be found at: www.agriculture.gov.sk.ca/ministry-overview.

Alignment with Government's Direction

The Ministry's activities in 2009-10 align with our Government's vision and three goals:

Government's Vision

A secure and prosperous Saskatchewan, leading the country in economic and population growth, and providing opportunity for a high quality of life for all.

Government's Goals

- Sustain economic growth for the benefit of Saskatchewan people, ensuring the economy is ready for growth and positioning Saskatchewan to meet the challenges of economic and population growth and development.
- Secure Saskatchewan as a safe place to live and raise a family where people are confident in their future, ensuring the people of Saskatchewan benefit from the growing economy.
- Keep Government's promises and fulfill the commitments of the election, operating with integrity and transparency, accountable to the people of Saskatchewan.

Ministry Overview

The Ministry of Agriculture's mandate is to foster a commercially viable, self-sufficient and sustainable agriculture and food sector by encouraging farmers, ranchers and communities to develop higher value-added production and processing and promoting sustainable economic development in rural Saskatchewan through better risk management.

During 2009-10 the Ministry completed its reorganization that was announced in January 2009. This reorganization was primarily aimed at putting the Ministry's focus back on providing extension services to producers. Three new regional offices were opened in the locations of Moose Jaw, Kindersley and Watrous, so that producers in those areas could access Ministry services in-person without traveling excessive distances.

Key programs that the Ministry delivers are:

- Regional services to producers, via 10 regional offices and a toll-free Agriculture Knowledge Centre, (forage, farm business, livestock, crops, irrigation);
- Business Risk Management Programs (Crop Insurance, AgriStability);
- The Agricultural Crown Land Sale Program;
- Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program;
- Other Growing Forward Programming (eg. Farm Business Development programming, Environmental Farm Plan, On-farm Food Safety, Voluntary Livestock Traceability);
- Research programming (Agriculture Development Fund, Saskatchewan Agri-Value Initiative, Agricultural Demonstration of Practices and Technologies);
- Livestock Loan Guarantee programs; and
- Pastures Program.

The Ministry serves the agriculture and value-added sector of the economy, which includes approximately 44,000 farmers and ranchers and generates over $8 billion in economic activity in Saskatchewan.

The Ministry partners with many organizations (eg. Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities, Provincial Council of Agricultural Development Boards, commodity marketing and development commissions) in the development and delivery of its programming.

The Ministry budgeted 500.6 FTEs to deliver its programs and services, with actual utilization for the 2009-10 coming in at 507.5.

The overage was mainly a result of additional resources required for inspecting livestock, operating community pastures, and selling crown land to producers.

Progress in 2009-10

The Ministry's Plan and accomplishments are primarily focused on the Government's goal of Economic Development:

Strategy: Ensure producers have access to effective business risk management programs.

Business risk management programs include AgriInsurance (Crop Insurance), AgriInvest and AgriStability. The Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) is a Treasury Board Crown Corporation, established by an Act of the Legislature, that administers the Crop Insurance and AgriStability programs. It also delivers programs which compensate producers for crop and livestock damage caused by wildlife.

AgriStability

The Ministry of Agriculture funds ongoing business risk management programs to help producers stabilize their income and deal with economic disasters. Income stabilization is provided through the AgriStability and AgriInvest programs, which are jointly funded by the federal and provincial governments.

Although program guidelines are subject to federal-provincial-territorial agreement, the federal administration determines specific program delivery parameters and administrative processes. Income from agricultural production is subject to both price and production risk and may be quite variable from year to year. Effective safety net programs and risk management tools are essential if producers are to deal with these risks and achieve their full economic potential.

In previous years, these programs were delivered in Saskatchewan by the Government of Canada. However, in January 2010, the federal and provincial governments signed the final agreements transferring delivery of the AgriStability program to Saskatchewan. SCIC, which has an established relationship with farmers and knowledge of farming and ranching operations in the province, began delivering the AgriStability Program in the spring of 2010 for the 2009 program year. Moving the administration of AgriStability to Saskatchewan will provide an improved level of service for producers, and is expected to create approximately 140 jobs across Saskatchewan.

The Ministry is also involved in the on-going business risk management strategic review. This review is aimed at examining how business risk management programming can contribute to increasing the competitiveness and profitability in the agriculture sector and how programming can better meet the needs of producers and governments in a changing global environment.

The provincial government remains committed to fully funding Saskatchewan's share of the AgriStability and AgriInvest programs. Full funding has been provided to meet the provincial 40 per cent cost-share of the 2009 AgriStability program. In addition, the March 24, 2010 provincial budget provides full funding for the 2010 program year.

Crop Insurance

SCIC protects grain and forage producers from production failures due to natural hazards through four insurance programs: multi-peril, organic, forage and weather-based. In 2009, the Corporation insured 25 million acres in its multi-peril insurance program. The Corporation insured 72.8 per cent of all acres seeded to grain crops in the province. SCIC also was responsible for $3.3 billion in liability and brought in $443.7 million in premium.

Pockets of the province lacking moisture early in the growing season and excessive moisture late during harvest were the main causes of loss. SCIC responded to early drought conditions through five measures, including extending the greenfeed seeding deadline; increasing claims eligible to be processed without field inspection so producers receive payments quicker; and raising the threshold for full payment of a crop loss. The November 15

deadline to report claims or request an extension of insurance was moved to December 1 to accommodate the late harvest.

Through all SCIC programs and benefits; there were 7,486 claims paid worth $74.2 million. This compares to 9,556 claims worth $97.9 million in 2008.

Strategy: Develop a regional presence to ensure farmers, ranchers, producer groups and industry have access to services, production and business information.

The 2009-10 year was busy for the newly created Regional Services Branch. The Branch, formed as a result of the January 2009 Ministry restructuring, delivered a strong extension program at the local, regional and provincial level and made significant progress in reconnecting with farmers, ranchers and the agriculture industry. This branch is committed to providing access to production and business information and services in the areas of crop, livestock, forage and farm business management, at each of the 10 regional offices.

More than 5,500 clients attended Ministry organized workshops and meetings, conferences, field days, tours and other training events across the province. Regional Specialists gave hundreds of presentations on topics related to forage, livestock and crop production, farm business management and funding programs. The specialists worked with local media to share agriculture-related information by writing articles for local newspapers, contributing to industry newsletters, conducting interviews and providing Ministry newsletters both electronically and by mail.

The Regional Offices and the Agriculture Knowledge Centre provided information and assistance on approximately 33,000 inquiries during the year, by telephone, office visits and farm/business visits. The Ministry's clients have experienced a new model of customer service and improved access to technical knowledge and research results.

Crop Sector Services

The Ministry delivered crop pest diagnostic services to farmers, ranchers and agrologists through the Crop Protection Laboratory. Providing crop pest surveillance and monitoring keeps farmers, ranchers and agrologists aware of existing and potential crop risks.

Provincial Crop Specialist services were provided to farmers, ranchers, agrologists and farmer/commodity associations. Timely and relevant technology transfer products (e.g. Crop Production News, fact sheets, written articles and presentations) provided up-to-date research results and information on crop agronomy, sector development, pest protection and control.

The Ministry developed and delivered effective, successful programs such as the Agriculture Fieldworker Policy and the Saskatchewan Variety Performance Group crop variety testing program, as well as supporting the development and implementation of Growing Forward programming in areas such as food safety, environmental farm planning and control of invasive alien plants.

The administration of *The Pest Control Product (Saskatchewan) Act* and *Regulations* which require inspection, training and licensing activities, ensure the safe use, handling and distribution of pesticides.The Ministry issued 1807 pesticide applicator, 412 pesticide vendor and 624 pesticide service licenses.

Cattle and Hog Support Program (CHSP)

The $71 million CHSP was announced in February 2009 as a one-time payment to help cattle and hog producers address their cash flow needs and retain their breeding herds. The program provided direct payments to Saskatchewan cattle and hog producers. Hog producers received $20 per market hog and $10 per weanling marketed between July 1, 2008 and January 31, 2009. Cattle producers received $40 per beef breeding cow and bred heifer owned on January 1, 2009. The application deadline for the CHSP was June 15, 2009.

Strategy: Collaborate with federal and provincial governments and industry on key agriculture industry issues.

Growing Forward

On April 6, 2009, new agricultural programs for Saskatchewan farmers were launched under the federal-provincial Growing Forward framework. This four-year plan paves the way for programs that support the Growing Forward vision of a profitable and innovative agriculture, agri-food and agri-based products industry that seizes opportunities in responding to market demands and contributes to the health and well-being of Canadians.

The major themes and sub-themes in the agreement are:

- Competitive and Innovative Sector, including:
  1) Innovation and Commercialization;
  2) Business Development; and
  3) Market Development.

- A Sector that Contributes to Society's Priorities, including:
  1) Food Safety Systems; and
  2) Environmental Programs.

- A Sector that is proactive in Managing Risks, including:
  1) Traceability; and
  2) Biosecurity.

In comparison to the previous framework, Growing Forward seeks to achieve greater integration of policy objectives and provide more provincial flexibility regarding specific goals and programming. The Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program (FRWIP), the Farm Business Development Initiative (FBDI) and the Saskatchewan Agri-Value Initiative (SAVI) are examples of programs developed using the flexibility provided by the program.

FRWIP is actually the largest single component of GF in Saskatchewan. This program will account for more than one-quarter of the federal and provincial expenditures that will be made over the next four years. More than 2,300 applications were received in 2009-10, totalling over $15 million in program funding.

In its initial year of operation, 626 farm clients were approved for FBDI funding benefits. FBDI helps farmers develop business plans and enhance business skills in nine business practice areas: business strategy, marketing, production economics, human resources, finance, environment, succession planning, business structure and risk management.

Up to $4,000 is available to qualified applicants to help them engage private sector business services and/or access farm-related education and training programs.

The SAVI program supported 17 agri-businesses with a goal to assist them in making sound business decisions and capturing market opportunities. SAVI helps the development and expansion of small to medium-sized enterprises or producer/ processor organizations involved in value-added processing of agricultural products.

Specifically, SAVI was designed to allow agri-businesses access to information, business analysis, business growth and development funding up to a maximum of $50,000, as well as support for skills and training development.

Under a 60:40 cost-sharing arrangement, the federal government is required to spend $152.6 million, while Saskatchewan is required to spend or designate programming costs of $101.8 million over four years. For Saskatchewan, this will amount to $21.3 million annually.

2009-10 was a transition year for on-farm food safety programs. Lead responsibility for program delivery was given to provincial commodity organizations. Expenditures totalled $610,390.

The 2009-10 year was also a transition year for environmental programming. Lead program delivery was done by the Provincial Council of ADD Boards with local water authorities also playing an increased role. Expenditures in 2009-10 were $7,938,807.

Manage and Enhance Intergovernmental and Trade Relationships

In 2009, Minister Bjornerud along with Ministry officials participated in the 19th annual Tri-National Agriculture Accord. Accord participants include U.S. and Mexican State Agriculture secretaries along with Canadian provincial agriculture ministers. Saskatchewan, in cooperation with North Dakota, led efforts to foster further harmonization of pesticide and veterinary drug regulations. Minister Bjornerud also led a trade and investment mission to the United States in 2009.

Key Action: Create an attractive business climate for the agriculture industry and establish the infrastructure that will support business development.

The Agricultural Crown Land Sale Program

The Agricultural Crown Land Sale Program was announced on November 15, 2008. The five-year program enhanced the existing sale to lessee program by providing a 10 per cent discount off the sale price in the first year, decreasing by two per cent per year over the next four years and a new financing alternative to the cash sale. The 10 per cent discount was extended to the second year, in 2009-10, with the two per cent decrease in discount moving forward for four years. The new financing option requires 50 per cent of the sale price paid at the time of sale and provision of a payment schedule guarantee from a recognized financial institution. The program was developed to return approximately 1.6 million acres back into the hands of farmers and ranchers.

Private ownership provides benefits to agricultural producers, businesses and the province. The purchase of land allows producers to expand their equity base, which is critical in financing their farming operations. Farmers have always demonstrated a willingness to reinvest any profits into their farm operations and ultimately into the economy of the province.

The payment schedule guarantee option adds diversification and marketability to the portfolio of services offered by financial institutions. The Province charges the institution no interest on the loan during the four years, which results in savings to the producer and a benefit for the lender.

More than 161,000 acres of Crown Land, valued at $48 million were sold in 2009-10.

Irrigation Rehabilitation Work

Irrigation research, demonstration and extension continue to be delivered directly to irrigators through the Ministry's five-year industry partnership with the Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation. Furthermore, the Ministry, industry and the University of Saskatchewan partner with the federal government at the Canada-Saskatchewan Irrigation Diversification Centre to deliver applied research project results to irrigators.

The Water Pumping Equipment Rental Program was transferred to the Ministry from the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority and the Ministry began administration of the program effective January 1, 2010. The program is coordinated from Outlook with five other regional depots for local access to the equipment.

Work continues with industry to expand irrigation in the Lake Diefenbaker area. Rehabilitation of the East Side Pump Station and M1 Canal, serving the South Saskatchewan River Irrigation District and the Saskatoon South East Water Supply System, continues. The pilot-testing of condition-assessment technologies continues for the Pre-stressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe in the Luck Lake and Riverhurst irrigation districts and the asset management plan was updated.

Soil investigations for irrigation certification continue (17,000 acres in 2009-10) to enable the completion of infill plans for up to 50,000 acres of infill in the South Saskatchewan River, Luck Lake and Riverhurst irrigation districts. These three irrigation districts received approval for $5.58 million from the federal Community Adjustment Fund with additional support from the Ministry ($620,000) to capacity-build 15,000 acres of infill over two years.

Livestock Loan Guarantee (LLG) Program

The LLG Program facilitates growth of Saskatchewan's livestock industry by providing producer associations access to credit at favourable interest rates and with limited collateral requirements for purchase of cattle, sheep or bison. The program may also be used as a management tool to generate cash flow through retained ownership options. The LLG Program supports increased livestock production by providing guarantees to lenders who make loans to producer associations and individual feedlot operators. Producers who have feeder advances through a producer association may also qualify for an interest rebate through the Federal Advance Payment Program. The LLG Program also provides guarantees on loans for the construction of new or expansion of existing feedlots.

The program is administrated under a number of regulations from *The Farm Financial Stability Act*.

Saskatchewan Pastures Program

The Saskatchewan Pastures Program manages a total of 53 cattle pastures and one sheep pasture throughout the province, encompassing approximately 830,000 acres. Cattle and sheep are grazed on a custom basis and the land resource is thereby preserved in its current productive state.

This land helps livestock producers by providing supplemental grazing opportunities for them to expand and/or diversify their farming and ranching operations.

The Livestock Inspection Program

This program works to verify ownership of cattle. Nearly 1.8 million animals were inspected in 2009/10. Last year, the inspection program helped to redirect approximately $6.5 million on 9,064 head of cattle to the rightful owner.

The Agricultural Operations Unit works with proponents to set up and operate intensive livestock operations in a manner that does not contaminate water resources. In 2009/10, there were 11 plan approvals issued for intensive livestock operations.

Strategy: Invest in progressive and relevant research, innovation and commercialization.

Agriculture Development Fund

In 2009-10, the Agriculture Development Fund (ADF) invested $9.6 million in 185 research projects to create new knowledge and technologies that would improve the profitability and competitiveness of Saskatchewan's farmers and ranchers. As part of this program, ADF provides ongoing support for the development of new crop varieties and, this year, ADF funding contributed to 22 new crop cultivar candidates for registration.

Support for Agriculture Research Infrastructure

Under the Strategic Research Program (SRP), the Ministry provides support for 15 research chairs whose work will enhance and add value to Saskatchewan producers and the agriculture industry. This was the first year in a four-year agreement for $12.5 million with the University of Saskatchewan and Western Beef Development Centre in support of the SRP program.

Support to PAMI and the Western Beef Development Centre (WBDC)

Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute (PAMI) and WBDC conduct programs that are aligned with Ministry and industry priorities. In 2009-10, the Ministry provided more than $1 million to PAMI and WBDC to carry out research, development, evaluation and extension activities to improve the agricultural machinery and livestock industries in the province.

Ag-West Bio

Ag-West Bio Inc., located at Innovation Place in Saskatoon, focuses on creating value in agriculture, food, health and bio-based industries through leadership in the application

of science and technology for the benefit of Saskatchewan people. Ag-West Bio Inc. expedites the commercialization of value-added products by linking knowledge and investment with science and enterprise in the development of products for meeting market demands. Over the past year, Ag-West Bio Inc. developed an updated strategic plan to keep aligned with Ministry goals.

In 2009-10, a total of $1.7 million in funding was provided to Ag-West Bio. ($400,000 from the Ministry, and $1.3 million under the federal/ provincial Growing Forward programming).

Agri-ARM

A total of $350,000 was provided to conduct applied research and demonstrate new technology at eight sites through the Agri-ARM program.

The following Agri-ARM sites received funding under this program:

- East Central Research Foundation, Canora, SK;
- Indian Head Agricultural Research Foundation, Indian Head, SK;
- North East Agriculture Research Foundation, Melfort, SK;
- Saskatchewan Conservation Learning Centre, Prince Albert, SK;
- Seager Wheeler Historic Farm Society Inc., Rosthern, SK;
- South East Research Foundation, Redvers, SK;
- Western Applied Research Corporation, Scott, SK;
- Wheatland Conservation Area Inc., Swift Current, SK.

Strategy: Work with industry to review and develop a supportive regulatory framework that reflects current practices and fosters growth and prosperity in the industry.

Regulatory Review:

The Ministry consulted with many organizations on regulations in 2009-10, resulting in the following:

- Two new regulations;
- 17 amendments; and
- 18 repeals.

(See appendix F for more information)

The dairy industry regulatory review is nearing completion. The Ministry expects that *The Milk Control Act 1992*, The Milk Control Regulations, Dairy Producers Regulations, 1995, Dairy Manufacturing Plant Regulations, Milk Transportation Regulations, and Dairy Product Grading Regulations will be repealed in 2010, and replaced by new producer marketing board regulations under *The Agri-Food Act, 2004* (Act).

In 2009-10, the Ministry repealed the Saskatchewan Egg Regulations, the Saskatchewan Poultry Regulations and the Saskatchewan Hatchery Regulations, 1978. The Ministry also initiated a process to repeal the *Cattle Marketing Deductions Act* so that industry could take control of directly managing their check-off funding. Reviews of numerous other pieces of legislation and regulation were initiated in 2009-10.

Strategy: Promote the agriculture sector and its benefits.

Youth Advisory Committee

In early 2009, the Minister created a Youth Advisory Committee to provide advice and direction to the Ministry of Agriculture on youth attraction and retention in the agriculture industry. Comprised of seven members between the ages of 18 and 30, all of the members are actively involved in farming or ranching and represent different regions in Saskatchewan.

Since inception, the committee has met regularly to discuss policy areas of relevance to youth considering or beginning a farming career. Topics include options around business risk management programming, financial management, industry promotion, labour and human resources, and training and education.

With approval to operate for two years, the committee will submit a final report with recommendations to the Minister by the end of the 2010-11 fiscal year.

Industry assistance

The Minister provided $12.5 million to various organizations under industry assistance. (See Appendix E for details).

AgriView

The Ministry published 10 issues of Agriview, its primary communications vehicle. Agriview provides production information, and highlights agricultural issues and activities. It is distributed to approximately 49,000 producers and industry organizations.

Green Certificate Program

Fifty individuals were provided with certificates under *The Green Certificate Farm Training Program*, administered by the Ministry. This program provides practical hands-on training curriculum for agriculture in Saskatchewan.

Performance Measures

Measure	Baseline / Trend Line Information
Applications for the Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program (FRWIP)	Targeted to southwest Saskatchewan*

Category	Applications - 2008	Completed projects - 2009
Community well	79	16
On-farm projects	3,304	1,455

Province-wide

Category	Applications - 2009	Completed projects - 2009
Community well	27	2
On-farm projects	2,360	1,100

* The 2008 program is the 2009-10 performance measure. 2009 information has also been provided as it is available and relevant.

Significance of the Measure

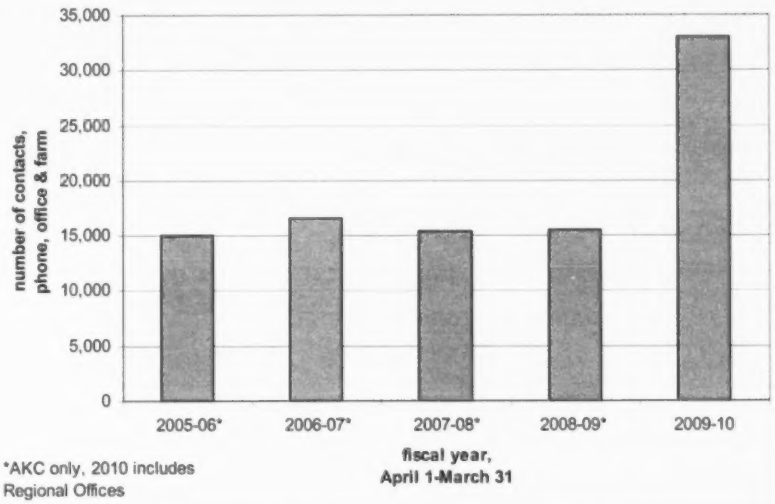
The Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program (FRWIP) supports the development of secure water sources in Saskatchewan to expand the livestock industry, encourage rural economic activity and mitigate the effects of future drought. Farmers, ranchers, Rural Municipalities and Indian Bands across Saskatchewan are eligible for funding of the following projects:

- Community Wells
- Large diameter and small diameter wells
- Shallow or deep-buried pipelines
- Dugouts

The program improves the business climate through infrastructure development (i.e. availability of water sources), and it is provided in collaboration with the federal government.

The application period for the targeted (for Southwest Saskatchewan) FRWIP closed on December 3, 2008, and no new applications were accepted in 2009. Due to constraints on construction resources, the completion deadline for projects was extended to November 1, 2010.

The province-wide FRWIP was established under Growing Forward in April 2009. The number of projects completed will provide a measure for success of the program, however, constraints on construction resources have restricted the number of projects completed.

Measure	Baseline / Trend Line Information
Number of contacts with farmers	

Significance of the Measure

Changes in the number of inquiries will enable the Ministry to gauge the popularity and usefulness of the technical and support services made available. The number of inquiries tends to rise if the sector is stressed by unusual weather, agronomic or economic factors. The number of inquiries to the Agricultural Knowledge Centre (AKC) is, at best, an approximate measure of the Ministry's services, as inquiries may vary from year to year in response to environmental or market factors and stresses. In 2009-10 the Ministry expanded its regional presence and the number of contacts for this year (and future years) includes regional office clients.

Measure	Baseline / Trend Line Information

Client satisfaction survey

	2005*	2007*	2010
Courteousness of employees	96%	99%	99%
Knowledge of employees	83%	88%	95%
Usefulness of information/solution	80%	82%	90%
Communication skills	96%	97%	96%
Amount of time required to resolve problem	82%	85%	90%
Overall service provided	76%	85%	94%

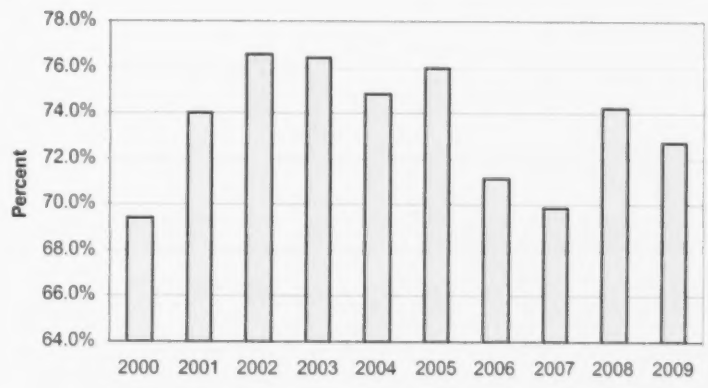
*AKC only, includes regional offices in 2010

Significance of the Measure

This measure provides an indication of the satisfaction of Ministry clients in their interactions with the Agriculture Knowledge Centre (AKC). On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being "not satisfied at all" and 5 being "completely satisfied", satisfaction with AKC client service has increased between the two surveys. The percentages represent those clients who responded as "satisfied" and "very satisfied".

In 2009-10 the Ministry expanded its regional presence and the number of contacts for this year (and future years) includes regional office clients.

Acreage insured under Crop Insurance as a percentage of total seeded acres

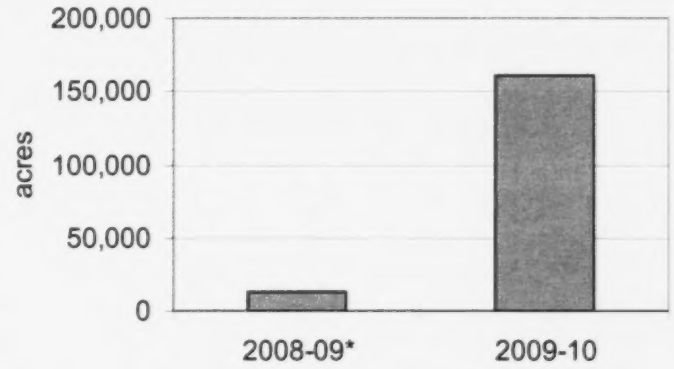


Significance of the Measure

Crop Insurance is a valuable risk management tool for producers. One measure to determine Crop Insurance program participation is comparing insured acreage to the total possible acreage that could be insured. The goal is to maintain or increase the amount of insured acreage in Saskatchewan. But fluctuations occur from year to year for various reasons, including individual circumstances, program options, crop prices and speculation on the current year's outlook.

Significant changes were made to the Crop Insurance program in 2009. In 2009, the Crop Insurance program insured 72.7 per cent of grain-seeded acres in the province. This amount is equivalent to the five-year average.

The description of this measure was revised to be consistent with the 2010-11 Plan.

Measure	Baseline / Trend Line Information
Number of acres of Crown land sold	

* from November 3, 2008

Significance of the Measure

This measures the success of putting Crown land back into the hands of farmers and ranchers. The chart shows acres sold in 2008-09 since the Agricultural Crown Land Sales Program began on November 3, and acres sold during the 2009-10 fiscal year.

The 2009-10 plan displayed the sales on a calendar-year basis. The chart above was changed to a fiscal year basis in order to be readily comparable to the financial component of the annual report.

Financial Summary

Expenses:

During 2009-10, the Ministry of Agriculture incurred expenses of $392.9 million, which is $90.5 million under the original expense budget of $483.4 million. Savings of $68.2 million were realized in the amounts required to fully fund the AgriStability and AgriInvest programs for 2009; $14.1 million for the cost of incentives under the Agricultural Crown Land Sale Program; $13.5 million for lower premiums and administration for the Crop Insurance Program; $13.3 million in operational savings realized across the Ministry; $3.5 million for lower transitional costs to transfer administration of the AgriStability Program to the Province; and $2.0 million for lower than expected payments under the Gopher Control Rebate Program.

Offsetting these savings were additional expenditures of $11.2 million for federal funding of non-business risk management programs (BRM) under Growing Forward; $5.5 million for additional requirements of the Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program; $3.2 million for additional loan loss provisions for the 2008 Short Term Hog Loan Program; $1.8 million in funding for the Coyote Control Program; $1.5 million in additional funding for the SaskBIO Program; and $0.9 million in additional funding for the Meat Processing Investment Rebate Program.

The revised budget includes $181,000 in statutory adjustments as a result of the net financing requirements for the two revolving funds it operates.

The following table provides a summary of expenses:

	Original Budget ($000's)	Revised Budget ($000's)	Actual ($000's)
Personal Services	30,125	30,125	24,770
Supplier and Other Payments	**24,980**	**25,161**	**17,641**
Transfers to Individuals	350,837	350,837	273,387
Transfers for Public Services	**75,111**	**75,111**	**74,700**
Amortization Expense	2,391	2,391	2,361
Total	**483,444**	**483,625**	**392,859**

Revenue:

In 2009-10, the Ministry collected $160.4 million in revenue; up $9.7 million from the Budget Estimate of $150.7 million. The increased revenue is primarily attributed to a $37.7 million reduction in the amounts previously recorded for the Canadian Agricultural Income Stabilization (CAIS) program and AgriStability for the 2003 to 2008 crop years due to revised Federal estimates for the programs. Federal transfers have increased by $14.1 million due mainly to the funding for non-BRM programs under Growing Forward; partially offset by decreased administration for Crop Insurance and AgriStability. Previous years' accruals of $2.9 million were reversed as they were no longer required and $1.8 million of unspent funds from various programs were returned to the General Revenue Fund.

Offsetting these increased revenues is decreased land revenue of $47.5 million due mainly to lower than expected sales under the Agricultural Crown Land Sale Program; partially offset by higher than expected lease revenues and transaction fees.

Financial Summary

Full Time Equivalents (FTEs):

The Ministry budgeted 500.6 FTEs for 2009-10. The actual FTE utilization during the year was 507.5. The increased utilization was a result of additional staff required for livestock inspections, pastures operations, the Agricultural Crown Land Sale Program and other financial programs; partially offset by vacant positions within the Ministry throughout the year.

Financial Schedules 2009-2010

Ministry of Agriculture
Schedule of Revenue and Expenditures

		2009-10 Estimates $000s	2009-10 Actuals $000s	Variances over (under) $000s	Notes
Revenue					
Land Revenue:					
Crown Land Sales	$	96,000	41,040	(54,960)	1
Rent and Penalty on Land Leases		20,000	26,983	6,983	2
Land Licenses and Permits		400	925	525	3
Interest		200	170	(30)	
Receipts from Federal Government		32,108	46,200	14,092	4
Privileges, Licenses and Permits		160	125	(35)	
Sales, Services and Service Fees		1,436	1,716	280	5
Interest Revenue		225	464	239	6
Other Revenue		51	1,278	1,227	7
Refund of Previous Year Expenditures		73	41,493	41,420	8
Total Revenue	$	150,653	160,394	9,741	
Expenditure					
Central Management and Services	$	7,477	5,641	(1,836)	1
Industry Assistance	$	10,386	12,531	2,145	2
Land Management					
Land Management Services	$	3,371	3,446	75	3
Land Revenue Bad Debt Allowances		500	(324)	(824)	4
Crown Land Sale Incentive Program		20,200	6,064	(14,136)	5
Pastures Revolving Fund Net Financing Requirement (Recovery)		-	623	623	6
Subtotal	$	24,071	9,809	(14,262)	
Policy and Planning	$	9,650	7,996	(1,654)	7
Research and Technology					
Project Coordination	$	936	851	(85)	8
Research Programming		14,212	15,533	1,321	9
Subtotal	$	15,148	16,384	1,236	

Financial Schedules 2009-2010

		2009-10 Estimates $000s	2009-10 Actuals $000s	Variances over (under) $000s	Notes
Regional Services					
Regional Services	$	19,561	22,893	3,332	10
Livestock Services Revolving Fund					
Subsidy		-	640	640	11
Net Financing Requirement (Recovery)		515	73	(442)	12
Subtotal		20,076	23,606	3,530	
Financial Programs					
Financial Programs Management	$	5,963	8,279	2,316	13
Business Risk Management					
Crop Insurance Program Delivery	$	31,513	30,513	(1,000)	14
Crop Insurance Premiums		122,537	111,070	(11,467)	15
Crop Insurance Interest Subsidy		1,000	-	(1,000)	16
AgriStability Program Delivery		22,000	18,537	(3,463)	17
AgriStability		160,600	96,920	(63,680)	18
AgriInvest		39,000	34,512	(4,488)	19
Subtotal	$	376,650	291,552	(85,098)	
Irrigation and Water Infrastructure					
Irrigation Services	$	7,632	4,973	(2,659)	20
Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program		4,000	9,500	5,500	21
Subtotal		11,632	14,473	2,841	
Budget Appropriation	$	481,053	390,271	(90,782)	
Supplementary Estimates/Special Warrants	$	-	-	-	
Statutory Adjustment	$	181		(181)	22
Total Revised Appropriation	$	481,234	390,271	(90,963)	
Capital Asset Acquisitions	$	-	(144)	(144)	23
Amortization of Capital Assets	$	2,391	2,361	(30)	
Other	$	-	371	371	24
Total Revised Estimates and Expenses	$	483,625	392,859	(90,766)	
FTE Staff Complement (FTE-Full Time Equivalent)		500.6	507.5	6.9	1

Financial Schedules - Notes

Explanations of variances which exceed $50,000 between Estimates and Actuals.

Revenue

1. Lower than anticipated land sales under the Agricultural Crown Land Sale Program.

2. Increase in lease rates on cultivated land and more leased land than anticipated held by the Crown due to lower than expected Crown land sales.

3. Increased number of land transactions compared to budget.

4. Increased revenue from the federal government for non-BRM programs under Growing Forward and for the administration of three programs (Specified Risk Material Management, Advance Payment, and Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure); offset by reductions in administration of the Crop Insurance and AgriStability programs.

5. Increased demand for irrigation services and revenue from new water pumping program.

6. Financing benefit provided under the Agricultural Crown Land Sale Program; partially offset by lower interest rates on hog loans.

7. Return of funds from the Agri-Food Innovation Fund which was wound up in 2009.

8. Reduction in the previous year liability for AgriStability, AgriInvest and CAIS for 2008 and prior years due to lower federal estimates, reversal of miscellaneous previous years' accruals no longer required, and the return of unused funds from the Saskatchewan Targeted Water Supply Program.

Expenditure

1. Savings in accomodations and other operating expenses.

2. Additional funding provided for the SaskBio, Coyote Control and Meat Processing Investment Rebate programs; partially offset by reduced funding for the Gopher Control Rebate Program.

3. Increased salaries due to the Agricultural Crown Land Sale Program; partially offset by savings in operating expenses.

4. Reduction in bad debt allowance.

5. Lower than expected land sales resulted in lower than expected cost of incentives for the program.

6. The Pastures Revolving Fund cash expenditures exceeded cash receipts resulting in a net financing requirement. Revenues were slightly less than expected and expenses were slightly higher than expected.

7. Vacancy management and operational savings; partially offset by the costs to reimburse the Milk Control Board for the operation of the Dairy Lab.

8. Vacancy management and operational savings.

9. Additional research projects approved.

10. Additional funding provided for the non-BRM programs under Growing Forward; partially offset by vacancy management and operational savings.

11. Operating subsidy provided to the Livestock Services Revolving Fund.

12. The Livestock Services Revolving Fund cash expenditures exceeded cash revenues, as expected. However, because of the subsidy provided by the General Revenue Fund, the financing requirement was lower than originally anticipated.

13. Additional loan loss provision required for the 2008 Short-Term Hog Loan Program and additional funding for the non-BRM programs under Growing Forward; partially offset by vacancy management and operational savings.

14. Lower administration costs due to a reduction in claims activity.

15. Lower premiums as insured acreage did not increase as much as anticipated.

16. Interest subsidy not required as debt has been repaid.

17. Transition costs for the administration of AgriStability were lower than anticipated.

18. Based on the federal government's forecast, lower contributions were required to fully fund the 2009 AgriStability Program.

19. Based on the federal government's forecast, lower contributions were required to fully fund the 2009 AgriInvest Program.

20. Lower costs incurred for rehabilitation work on irrigation infrastructure, vacancy management and operational savings.

21. Increased contribution to the Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program to cover all 2009 applications.

22. There is a statutory provision for revolving funds when the cash expenditures exceed revenue. Variances for the Pastures Revolving Fund and the Livestock Services Revolving Fund are explained in notes 6 and 12.

23. Capital expenditures for operating equipment and leasehold improvements.

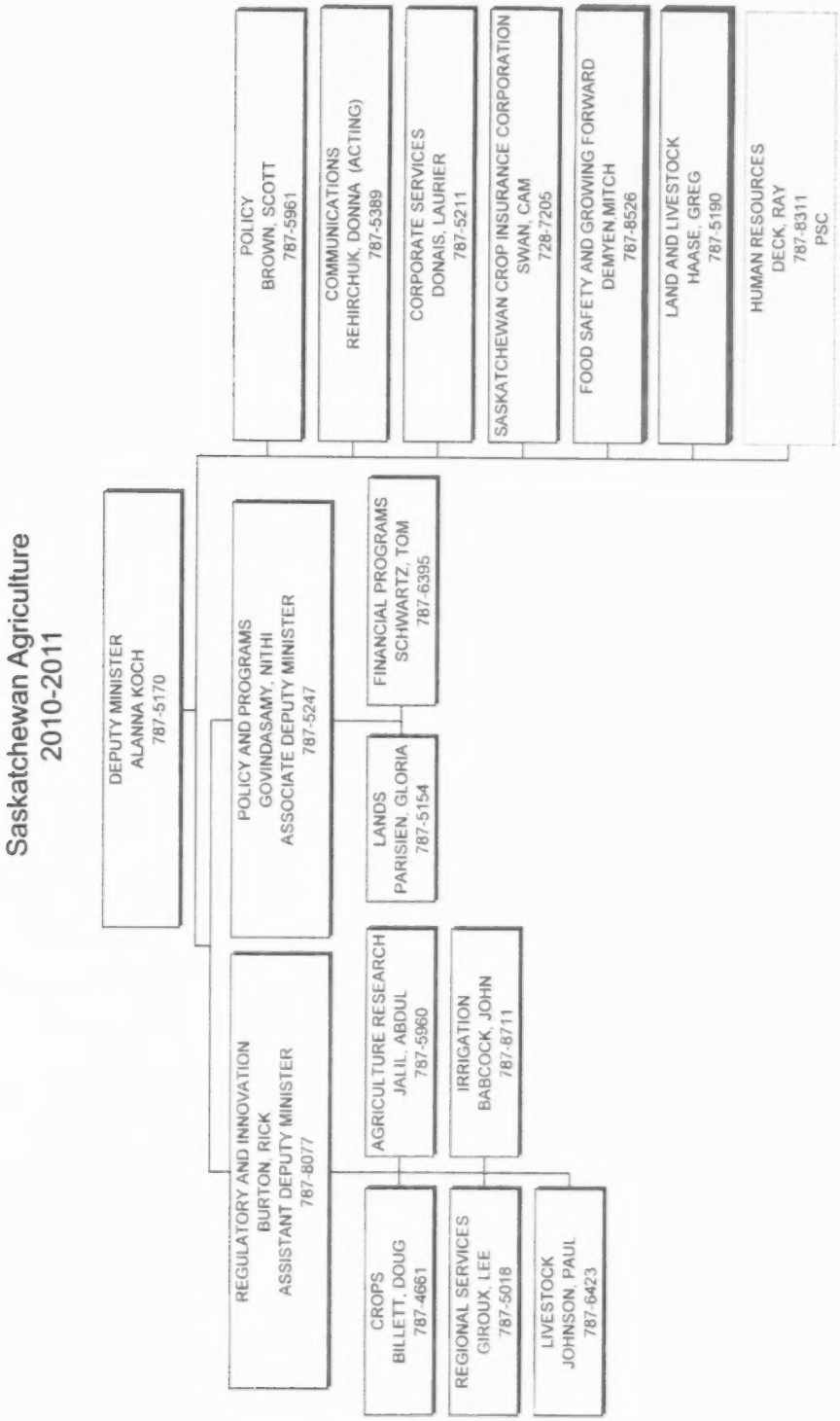
24. Loss on sale of agricultural land classified as tangible capital assets; partially offset by increases in inventory and prepaid expenses.

FTE Staff Complement

1. Additional term staff required for livestock inspections, pastures operations, the administration of the Agricultural Crown Land Sale Program and other financial programs; partially offset by vacancy management due mainly to expenditure restraint.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Ministry Organizational chart (To Director Level)



Appendix B: Loans and Guaranteed Debt

Livestock Loan Guarantee (LLG) Program
The LLG Program facilitates growth of Saskatchewan's livestock industry by providing producer associations access to credit at favourable interest rates and with limited collateral requirements for purchase of cattle, sheep or bison. The program may also be used as a management tool to generate cash flow through retained ownership options. The LLG Program supports increased livestock production by providing guarantees to lenders who make loans to production associations and individual feedlot operators.

During 2009-10, budgeted and actual guarantees under this program were:

Breeder Associations (In thousands of dollars)	**Budget**	**Actual**	**Variance Over (Under)**
Beginning Balance	19,000	10,545	
Additions			
Reductions		(1,362)	
Ending Balance	19,000	9,183	(9,817)

Explanation of Variance:
Program participation is lower as a result of market uncertainty, producers exiting the livestock industry and additional options for financing.

Feeder Associations (In thousands of dollars)	**Budget**	**Actual**	**Variance Over (Under)**
Beginning Balance	14,000	6,102	
Additions			
Reductions		(84)	
Ending Balance	14,000	6,018	(7,982)

Explanation of Variance:
Program participation is lower as a result of market uncertainty, producers exiting the livestock industry and additional options for financing.

Individual Cattle Feeder Loan Guarantees (In thousands of dollars)	**Budget**	**Actual**	**Variance Over (Under)**
Beginning Balance	2,000	37	
Additions			
Reductions		(14)	
Ending Balance	2,000	23	(1,977)

Explanation of Variance:
Program participation is lower as a result of market uncertainty, producers exiting the livestock industry and additional options for financing.

Feedlot Construction Loan Guarantees (In thousands of dollars)	Budget	Actual	Variance Over (Under)
Beginning Balance	3,000	1,453	
Additions		711	
Reductions			
Ending Balance	3,000	2,107	(893)

Explanation of Variance:
Program participation lower as a result of market uncertainty.

Enhanced Feeder Loan Guarantees (In thousands of dollars)	Budget	Actual	Variance Over (Under)
Beginning Balance	500	nil	
Additions			
Reductions			
Ending Balance	500	nil	(500)

Explanation of Variance:
N/A

Short-Term Hog Loan Program(s)
The Short-Term Hog Loan Program(s) supported increased livestock production by providing loans to producers. The initial Short-Term Hog Loan Program that was announced in December 1998 assisted hog producers in offsetting operating losses due to a severe reduction in hog prices at that time. A second hog loan program was announced in November 2002 in response to the high feed prices and depressed market prices that hog producers were experiencing. A third hog loan program was announced in December 2007 again in response to the high feed prices and depressed market prices.

During 2009-10, budgeted and actual loans under this program were:

1998 STHLP outstanding loans (In thousands of dollars)	Budget	Actual	Variance Over (Under)
Beginning Balance	nil	12	
Additions			
Reductions	nil	(12)	
Ending Balance	nil	nil	nil

Explanation of Variance:
N/A – all loans under this program have now been either repaid or written off.

2002 STHLP outstanding loans (In thousands of dollars)	Budget	Actual	Variance Over (Under)
Beginning Balance	350	885	
Additions			
Reductions	(350)	(702)	
Ending Balance	nil	183	183

Explanation of Variance:
It was expected that all loans would be repaid by March 31, 2010. However, there are still a few loans that remain outstanding.

2008 STHLP outstanding loans (In thousands of dollars)	Budget	Actual	Variance Over (Under)
Beginning Balance	14,847	15,378	
Additions			
Reductions	(750)	(544)	
Ending Balance	14,097	14,834	737

Explanation of Variance:
Loan repayments have been slower than anticipated.

Agricultural Credit Corporation of Saskatchewan

Agri-Food Equity Fund (AFEF) debt financing was used by the fund for agri-value-added investments and will be repaid as AFEF investments are repaid.

During 2009-10, budgeted and actual balances under this program were:

Agri-Food Equity Fund (In thousands of dollars)	Budget	Actual	Variance Over (Under)
Beginning Balance	7,550	7,750	
Additions			
Reductions	(200)	(1,600)	
Ending Balance	7,350	6,150	(1,200)

Explanation of Variance:
Increased repayment from the Agricultural Credit Corporation of Saskatchewan.

Appendix C: Saskatchewan Legislation Administered by the Ministry of Agriculture 2009-10

The Agricultural Credit Corporation of Saskatchewan Act

The Agricultural Equipment Dealerships Act

The Agricultural Implements Act

The Agricultural Leaseholders Act

The Agricultural Operations Act

The Agricultural Safety Net Act

The Agri-Food Act, 2004

The Agrologists Act, 1994

The Animal Identification Act

The Animal Products Act

The Animal Protection Act, 1999

The Apiaries Act, 2005

The Cattle Marketing Deductions Act, 1998

The Crop Insurance Act

The Crop Payments Act

The Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization Act

The Diseases of Animals Act

The Expropriation (Rehabilitation Projects) Act

The Family Farm Credit Act

The Farmers' Counselling and Assistance Act

The Farm Financial Stability Act

The Farming Communities Land Act

The Grain Charges Limitation Act

The Horned Cattle Purchases Act

The Irrigation Act, 1996

The Land Bank Repeal and Temporary Provisions Act

The Leafcutting Beekeepers Registration Act

The Line Fence Act

The Milk Control Act, 1992

The Noxious Weeds Act, 1984

The On-farm Quality Assurance Programs Act

The Pastures Act

The Pest Control Act

The Pest Control Products (Saskatchewan) Act

The Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute Act, 1999

The Provincial Lands Act *

The Sale or Lease of Certain Lands Act *

The Saskatchewan 4-H Foundation Act

The Saskatchewan Farm Security Act

The Soil Drifting Control Act

The Stray Animals Act

The Vegetable, Fruit and Honey Sales Act

The Veterinarians Act, 1987

The Veterinary Services Act

*** Joint responsibility**

Appendix D: Special Purpose Funds and Agencies with Legislative Responsibilities to Saskatchewan Agriculture as of March 31, 2010

Special Purpose Funds

(Financial Statements are tabled separately)

	Year End
Cattle Marketing Deductions Fund	March 31
Horned Cattle Fund	March 31
Livestock Services Revolving Fund	March 31
Pastures Revolving Fund	March 31
Individual Cattle Feeder Loan Guarantee Provincial Assurance Fund	March 31

Agencies (Annual Reports are published separately)

Agricultural Credit Corporation of Saskatchewan	March 31
Thomson Meats Ltd.	March 31
Agricultural Implements Board	March 31
Agri-Food Council	March 31
Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation (ICDC)	March 31
Milk Control Board	December 31
Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute	March 31
Saskatchewan Agricultural Stabilization Fund	March 31
Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation	March 31
Crop Reinsurance Fund of Saskatchewan	March 31

Agencies under the Agri-Food Council

Beef Development Board
Canaryseed Development Commission of Saskatchewan
Chicken Farmers of Saskatchewan
Saskatchewan Alfalfa Seed Producers Development Commission
Saskatchewan Beekeepers Development Commission
Saskatchewan Broiler Hatching Egg Producers' Marketing Board
Saskatchewan Canola Development Commission
Saskatchewan Egg Producers
Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission
Saskatchewan Forage Seed Development Commission
Saskatchewan Mustard Development Commission
Saskatchewan Oat Development Commission
Saskatchewan Pulse Growers
Saskatchewan Sheep Development Board
Saskatchewan Turkey Producers' Marketing Board
Saskatchewan Winter Cereals Development Commission
SaskPork

Appendix E: Third-Party Funding

Industry Assistance Grants

Budgeted Industry Assistance Grants		**4,190**
Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture	100	
Prairie Diagnostic Services Inc.	2,385	
Saskatchewan 4-H Council Inc.	300	
Saskatchewan Food Industry Development Centre	700	
Budgeted grants $50,000 and under	705	
Miscellaneous Industry Assistance Grants		**370**
SeCan Association	100	
Miscellaneous grants $50,000 and under	270	
Community Adjustment Fund - matching federal grants to Irrigation Districts		**620**
Matching federal grants to Irrigation Districts		
Meat Processing Strategy		**1,097**
For new and expanded slaughter and processing capacity in Saskatchewan. The Meat Processing Investment Rebate Program offered a 15 per cent rebate on construction costs for federally registered new plant construction or expansion. The rebate also applied to costs associated with a change of status from provincially regulated to federally registered status, or a move from federally registered status to European Union status. As originally planned, the program ended March 31, 2010.		
SaskBio Program		**2,500**
Provides repayable contributions of up to $10 million per project for the construction or expansion of transportation biofuels production facilities in Saskatchewan.		
Comprehensive Pest Control Program		
Gopher Control Rebate Program - provides producers, RMs and First Nations bands with 50 per cent reimbursement for eligible gopher control products.		**919**
Livestock Predation Program - support to hire experienced hunters and trappers to remove problem animals, such as coyotes and wild boar, that cause livestock deaths .		**350**
Black Fly Control Program - funding to purchase and apply chemicals to control the problems caused by black flies and the harm invoked on livestock in northern Saskatchewan.		**125**
Fieldworker Program - support for the control of pests and diseases such as rats, perennial weeds, Hantavirus and Dutch Elm Disease.		**600**
Coyote Control Program - pays hunters a bounty of $20 per coyote removed, as well as RMs an administration fee of $2 per coyote. As originally planned, the program ended March 31, 2010.		**1,760**

Third-Party Funding

	($000's)
Research and Technology Grants	
Research and Development Grants Funding provided through a number of mechanisms including the Agriculture Development Fund to support research and development. Areas of focus include, but are not limited to: improved food quality and safety, decreased agricultural production risk, increased livestock competitiveness and the development of proprietary technology and know-how in novel applications.	9,982
Strategic Research Programs Provides funding to cover the salaries of 15 Research Scientist/Technician teams at the University of Saskatchewan and the Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute. The Program covers four broad research themes including crop genetic improvement, foods and bio-product development, soils/environment and livestock research.	2,257
Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute Core funding is provided to the Prairie Agricultural Machinery Institute (PAMI) which contributes to their mandate of assisting the agriculture industry through applied research, development and testing. PAMI focuses on farm equipment design, bio-energy and processing as well as livestock production and economics through their relationship with the Western Beef Development Centre.	1,041
Ag-West Bio Inc. Agriculture contributes to Ag-West Bio Inc.'s focus on developing products derived from living organisms with market applications in agricultural, environmental, industrial, energy and bio-processing and health and nutrition markets.	400
Business Risk Management Provides the provincial contributions to the AgriStability and AgriInvest programs. Provides Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation transition and implementation funding for provincial delivery of AgriStability.	149,968
Crop Insurance Provides funding for the Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC) to administer insurance programs which protect grain and livestock producers from production failures due to natural hazards. SCIC also delivers programs which compensate producers for crop damage caused by big game and migratory waterfowl.	141,583
Growing Forward Provides funding for the federal contributions for non-BRM programs under the Growing Forward Framework agreement with the federal government.	11,236
Agricultural Crown Land Sale Program Cost of providing incentives to purchasers of leased crown land including a 10 per cent discount from the sale price and favourable financing terms.	6,064

Third-Party Funding

	($000's)
Saskatchewan Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program Provides assistance to farmers and ranchers across the province to develop secure water supplies.	**9,500**
Short-Term Hog Loan Program Provides for loss provisions on uncollectible loans under the Short-Term Hog Loan Program	**3,206**
Miscellaneous	
Irrigation Branch - provides funding to Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation for non-district irrigation members.	**35**
Lands Branch - provides compensation to RMs and Conservation and Development Authorities for tax levies on vacant patented Crown Land and for arrears owed on behalf of former Crown Land lessees.	**54**
Livestock Branch - grant to the Saskatchewan Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in support of investigation of welfare complaints involving livestock.	**230**
Total Third Party Funding	**348,087**

Appendix F: Regulatory Amendments

The 2009-10 regulatory agenda included:

New Regulations

The 2009 Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program Regulations

- These regulations provide financial assistance to producers, RMs and Indian Bands to develop secure water supplies for agricultural purposes.

The Canola Development Plan Regulations

- These regulations repeal and replace *The Saskatchewan Canola Development Plan Regulations*. These regulations will allow the Minister of Agriculture to change the refund of producer levies from two pay periods to one pay period.

Amendment Regulations

The Gopher Control Rebate Amendment Regulations, 2009

- The amendments extend the period for which producers, RMs, and Indian Bands are eligible for a rebate of 50 per cent on money spent on eligible gopher control products to October 1, 2009.

The Pest Declaration Amendment Regulations, 2009

- The amendment provides authority to undertake prevention and enforcement measures related to the spread and control of clubroot disease.

The Stray Animals Amendment Regulations, 2009

- The amendment clarifies definitions, modernizes and simplifies wording and updates rates which RMs can charge for handling stray animals.

The Wildlife Damage Compensation Program Amendment Regulations, 2009

- The amendment authorizes compensation under The Wildlife Damage Program for damage to honey and leafcutter bees (shelters and hives) as a result of bear ravaging.

The Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program Amendment Regulations, 2009

- The amendment extends the period for the applicant to complete their projects to November 1, 2010.

The Late Blight Control Amendment Regulations, 2009

- The amendments authorize the Minister of Agriculture to share responsibility for controlling late blight with those involved in packing and processing potatoes, and landowners renting their land to potato growers. It also gives provincial officials authority to access and enforce regulations on property that does not belong to a potato grower.

The Bacterial Ring Rot Control Amendment Regulations, 2009

- The amendments will impart some responsibility for bacterial ring rot control to any person involved in packing and processing potatoes, and to landowners renting their land to potato growers. It also gives provincial officials authority to access property and enforce regulations on property that does not belong to a potato grower and requires a grower to record the location of culled potatoes.

The Forage Seed Development Plan Amendment Regulations, 2009

- The amendments change the timeframe for when the annual general meeting of registered forage seed producers will be held.

The Provincial Lands Amendment Regulations, 2009

- The amendments allow the Ministry to apply the Crown land sale discount based on the date the application is received and extends the 10 per cent discount for one year.

The Short-Term Cattle Loan Program Amendment Regulations, 2009

- The amendment allows producers to defer principal payments until 2011.

The Short-Term Hog Loan Program Amendment Regulations, 2009

- The amendment postpones the first repayment date from May 2010 to May 2011.

The Canaryseed Development Plan Amendment Regulations, 2009

- The amendment changes the refund of levies from two pay periods per year to one pay period per year.

The Crop Insurance Amendment Regulations, 2010

- The amendments provide authority to implement changes to the 2010 Crop Insurance Program. New crops under the program are camelina, navy beans, soybeans and honey.

The Pest Declaration Amendment Regulations, 2010

- The amendment declares the Richardson's ground squirrel (gopher) a pest.

The Canada Saskatchewan Specified Risk Material Management Program Amendment Regulations, 2010

- The amendments extend the deadline for application from March 31, 2010 to September 30, 2010 to allow applicants the necessary time to complete their projects. The assistance levels for all categories increase from 50 to 75 per cent.

The Pastures Amendment Regulations, 2010

- The amendment increases the limit to 60 adult animals per patron.

The Saskatchewan Egg Regulations, 2010

- The regulations concerning the issuance of licenses and the administration have been repealed to eliminate unnecessary duplication. Regulations concerning egg grading standards have been retained so national standards are used both within and outside the province.

Repealed Regulations

- *The Provincial Lands Purchase Refund Regulations*
- *The Silver Lake Farm Land Regulations*
- *The Dairy Producers Regulations*
- *The Saskatchewan Poultry Regulations*
- *The Saskatchewan Hatchery Regulations*
- *The Milk Transportation Regulations*
- *The Dairy Product Grading Regulations*
- *The Dairy Manufacturing Plant Regulations*
- *The Warble Control Regulations*
- *The Saskatchewan Canola Development Plan Regulations*
- *The Electronic Implant Repeal Regulations*
- *The Farm Land Education Tax Rebate Program Regulations*
- *The Conservation Cover Program Regulations*
- *The Drought Relief (Herd Retention) Program Regulations*
- *The Canada Saskatchewan BSE Recovery Program Regulations, 2003 (No.2)*
- *The Ruminant (Non bovine) Industry Transitional Program Regulations*
- *The Unseeded Acreage Payment Regulations*
- *The Saskatchewan Egg Regulations (269/78)*

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Ministry Organizational chart (To Director Level)